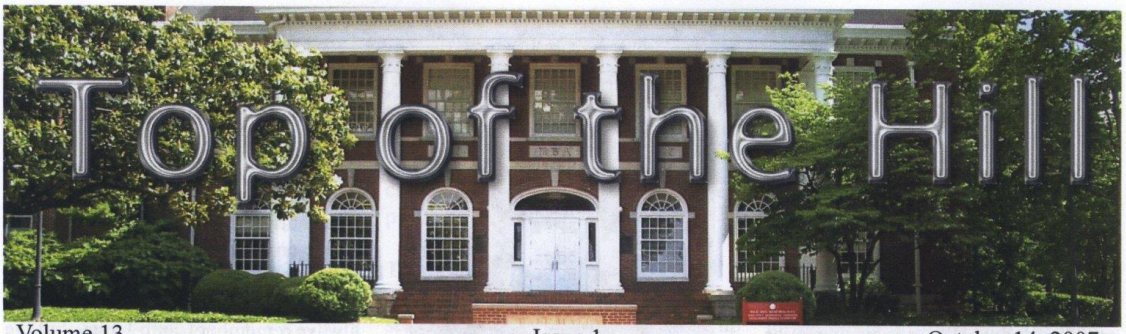

Volume 13 Issue 1 October 14, 2007

Camp Laney Reflections

Class of 2013

by Mrs. Dyer's English 7 Students

On Wednesday, September 18, the seventh grade class embarked on its retreat to Camp Laney, located in Mentone, Alabama. The seventh-graders boarded two Anchor buses and one MBA van; at Camp Laney, they occupied nine cabins. During the MBA visit, the campers participated in all sorts of events and challenges with an organization called the Adventure Guild. Here, the seventh-graders report on some of the more memorable events:

Battleball

"Battleball was one of the most fun things we did at Camp Laney," said Chris Duffey. The intense games caused some people to lose their voices from cheering their team on. Echoing this enthusiasm, Duffey said, "It was one of the most exciting, if not tiring, things we did at Camp Laney. With those yellow balls flying and people arguing, it was a big mess, but it was

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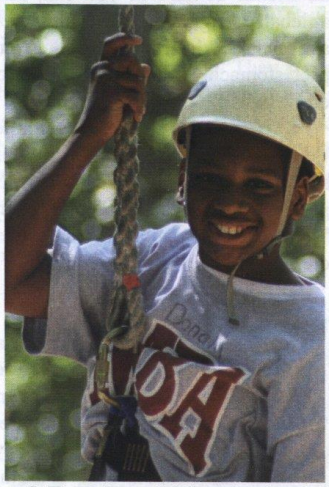


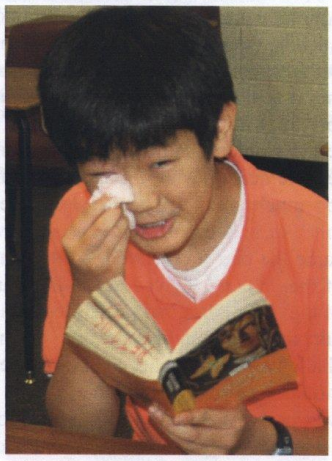
JeTarri Donald flies high!

The Critics Disagree

The Count of Monte Cristo

by Joe Scherrer and Scott Blackwell

For those of you who have forgotten those long, painful hours of summer spent reading *The Count of Monte Cristo*, this novel tells the story of Edmond Dantès, a seaman who is engaged to a beautiful woman. However, two men who are jealous of Dantès write a letter falsely accusing him of being a Bonapartist, a supporter of Napoleon. On the day of his wedding, Dantès is arrested and brought before a judge, Villefort, who, after hearing his case, knows Dantès is innocent. However, the accusatory letter also implicates Villefort's father of being a Bonapartist; thus, to protect his father from suspicion, Villefort has Dantès imprisoned in the dreaded Château d'If. In prison, Dantès is told by a fellow prison mate, the Abbé Faria, how he was framed. Faria also tells him about a treasure on the Isle of Monte Cristo, and after the Abbé dies, Dantès escapes in the corpse's sack and finds the treasure. Using his wealth to enter Parisian high society, he becomes



The prison scene is so sad that it brings Chris to tears.

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CAMP LANEY

particularly enjoyable at night."

Some campers give a few reasons why: "The feeling of a foam ball hitting your face is a pretty cool thing. If you enjoy throwing yellow foam, squishy dodgeballs at your enemies and friends as hard as you can, then battleball is right for you (unless you have nausea, heartburn, indigestion, upset stomach, seizures, or a fear of yellow balls)," said Clint Smith.

The rules are very simple. You split up into two teams with your hand on the wall. If you get hit or your opponent catches the ball, you are out. If you catch an opponent's ball, then your opponent is out.

Kamikaze

Another memorable event at Camp Laney was the Kamikaze. Here, Ryan Potter offers a first-hand account of this exciting experience: "When you know nothing about Camp Laney, the 'Kamikaze' sounds like a daring ride that you may not come back from (especially if you know the real definition of the word!). But really it is

Mark asks: "Are you sure I won't hit the tree?"

Dr. Marro--King of the zipline!

a grueling three-part challenge that you will survive...believe me, I know from experience. You start the beginning of this complex ride by climbing up a high rope ladder that seems to keep going and going. Although it may look like you are very high in the air, you are really only about thirty feet off the ground. After you climb to the top, you are told to walk across a series of obstacles, including walking on boards and walking on just rope itself. Once I took that first step onto the plank of wood, my mind was racing with thoughts of falling to the ground. Luckily, though, all the people working at the stations were kind enough to put me in a harness that was hooked up to wire with a rope above so that if I fell, I wouldn't fall to a most certain, terrible death. Well, I guess I thought too much about it because I finished this part in about thirty seconds. Now came the part that looked like the end of me. When I arrived at the last part of the 'Kamikaze,' so proud that I had just finished the hardest part of the challenge. My mind began to race when the man working the station told me I was supposed to jump off the edge of a log and freefall for about twenty feet with only my harness keeping me from hitting the ground and breaking every bone in my body. I was thinking that there was no way I was going to this, but reluctantly I did, and it was amazing. At the end I wished I could do it again, but I couldn't, so went off to the next station instead. In years to come, I will always remember Camp Laney, but the one thing I will remember most is the 'Kamikaze' and how it challenged me and how much fun I had on it."

Pamper Pole

Another intense experience was the Pamper Pole, a large telephone pole with metal handles with a small platform and a taller platform. If you have enough skills, you can jump and grab the trapeze that hangs at the top. Davidson White said, "Well, when I got to the top, I was a little nervous, but I knew I could do it because I am super. When I jumped, I was flying through the air and caught the trapeze. I was nervous, so I only did one pull-up, but I caught it anyway off the high platform. I was honored to go on this trip and I am thankful for my chance to jump off!"

Faulkner worries: "We have to do what up there?!"

Another seventh-grader, Nick Fletcher, shares his life-changing experience: "It was my goal to catch the trapeze. I thought about it all day. Finally, it was my turn in line. I started climbing up the pole, grabbing handle

CAMP LANEY

after handle. It seemed like it took years to get to the platform. I was on the platform. The pole was swaying back and forth under me. It seemed like I was one hundred feet in the air. I started to become very nervous, but finally, I decided to jump. I soared through the air and caught the trapeze!"

Boat Race

Held on Friday morning, the boat race was the last major event at Camp Laney. Each cabin had to build a boat out of cardboard, duct tape, and a big plastic sheet. The cabins could design their boat any way they wanted to, as long as they only used the materials given. The object of the race was to get as many people across the river and back before the boat sank. Most cabins' boats sank almost immediately, getting lots of laughs from the crowd. The boaters laughed along with them. In the end, only two cabins were left in the race: one boat aptly called Bottom of the River, and the other randomly named Cheesy-Cheezit. The Cheesy-Cheezit boat won in the end, earning a pizza party for that cabin. Overall, that was one of the best parts of Camp Laney.

The Food

After all that excitement, seventh-graders can certainly work up an appetite. Here, too, they report that Camp Laney did not disappoint.

Jack and Jake dominate in the canoe race.

Oh, the agony of defeat! Furman and Tate take the plunge!

"The food that we were served while at Camp Laney was scrumptiously delicious, from the eggs in the morning to the pizza at night," said Chris Duffey. "We were expecting the food to be scrumptious, but it was even better than we thought."

Duffey went on: "They served the best breakfast food ever, such as eggs, biscuits, and bacon. For lunch they had very good chicken nuggets, and for dinner they had some very delicious cheese and pepperoni pizza. They had given us everything that we expected but even better."

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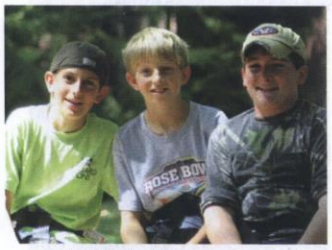


Andy, Andrew, and Sam enjoy Laney.

continued from page 1

the Count of Monte Cristo and seeks revenge on the three men who betrayed him.

The book was definitely loved by all of our English teachers. On the other hand, the MBA Junior School had mixed reactions to it. Here are what a few of them had to say:

Rett Hooper: "It was boring because it was too long."

Michael Greif: "Very intricate."

Aidan Davis: "An excellent book, but often off topic."

Hunter Woolwine: "It's hard to understand stuff; I feel sorry for the seventh graders who had to read it."

Vaughn Hunt: "It was awful."

William Yang: "It was terrible and long."

Andrew Cho: "Edmond Dantes is my inspiration."

Edmond is Alex's hero.

Kelly Haselton: "I loved this book,and anyone that disagrees won't get up tomorrow morning."

Kyle Gray: "I hated it."

Blake Bars: "It was an interesting book with a good plotline, but it was one of the biggest books I have read."

Alex Hagar: "I thought it was exciting and would like to read another book by Dumas."

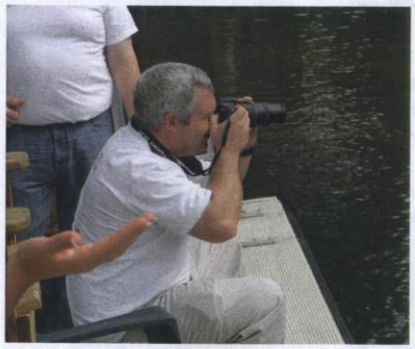
Bryan Oslin: "I liked the story, but it was a little long."

Chris Lee: "I almost cried when he went to Château d'If."

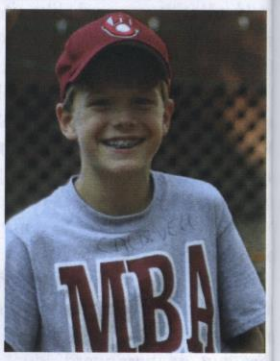
CAMP LANEY

All in all, the seventh grade reported an excellent time at Camp Laney. From the Kamikaze to the boat races to the pizza and chicken nuggets, the MBA class of 2013 enjoyed their stay in Mentone, Alabama.

Contributors: John Bachman, Anthony Birdsong, J.T. Braun, Nick Fletcher, Wilson Johnson, Andrew Karpos, Brady McDonald, Clay McLemore, Paul Moore, Penn Murfee, Robert Papel, Michael Piana, Clint Smith, Landon Bullock, Tommy Douglas, Chris Duffey, Ryan Flack, Jody Gorham, Dylan Hall, Kamani Hodges, Chris Hooks, Mark Lowe, Alex Matheny, Matthew McCall, Ryan Potter, Andy Seay and Davidson White

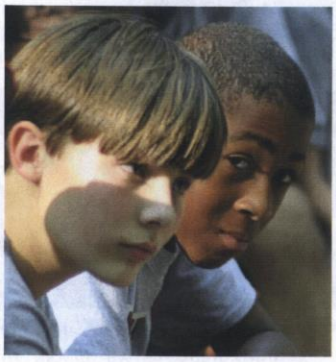


Our illustrious and disabled photographer: Coach Cooper

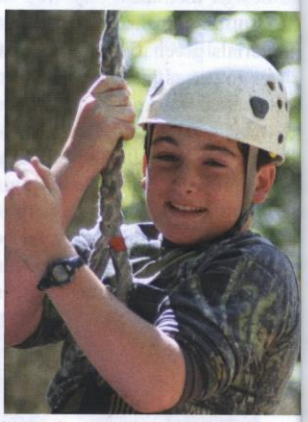


Collin is having a good time.

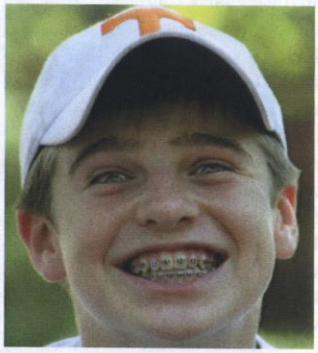
Hunter: Master of the climbing wall



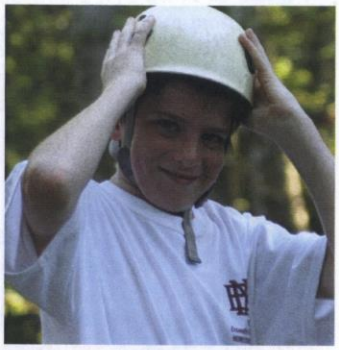
Hamilton and Kamani focus on the Kamikaze.



Sam shows everyone "the rope.



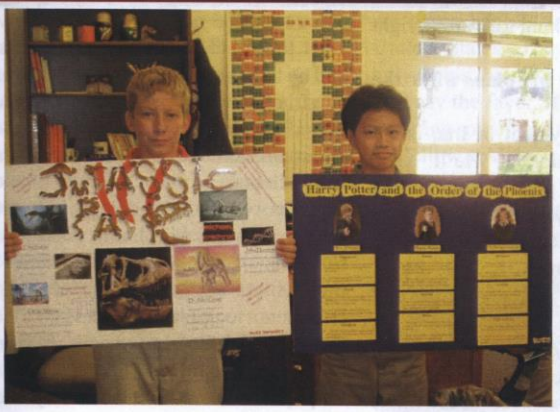
Joe looks like he has had way too much sugar!



Hunter is reluctant to give up his "cool" hat.

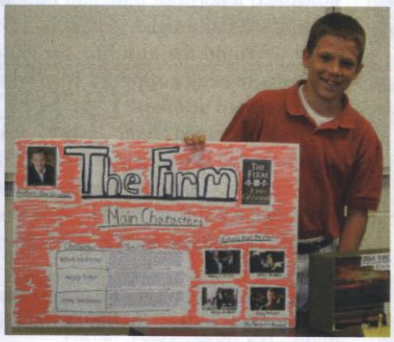
Whit focuses on staying out of cold water and rowing to victor

ENGLISH 7 PROJECTS

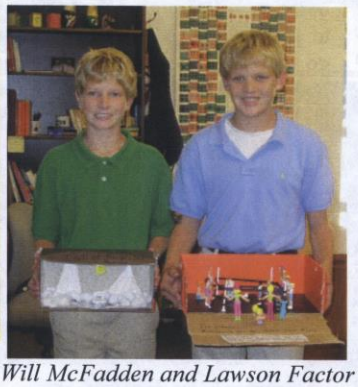


Alex Benedict and Tom Bu

Kevin Wang, Joe Richardson, Taylor Groom, Hayden Deakins, and Hamilton Millwee

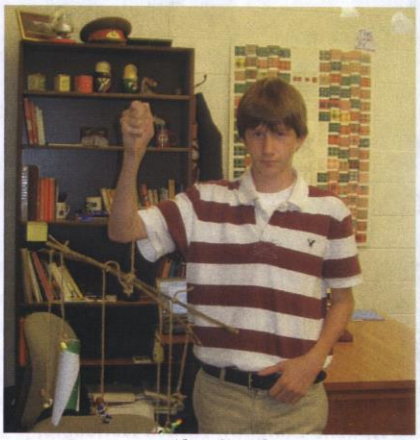


Benjamin Haynes



Will McFadden and Lawson Factor

Bradley Long and Jack Rhodes



Alex Smith

Parrish Preston and Christian Sargeant

FEATURES

Alumni in Iraq

by Matt Anderson

What does one think about when the topic of the Iraq war comes up? Do we think about the evil men who use cowardly tactics to bring death and destruction to their own people? Do we think about the political turmoil it is causing all over the country? Or do we think about the few brave men who graduated from our school and decided to serve their country by leaving the safety of the U.S. to the war-stricken Iraq? Mr. Woolsey's son, Matt Woolsey, is one of those brave men. I had the honor of interviewing Mr. Woolsey about his son.

What is your son's military background?

My father was a colonel in World War II. I was also in the Army Reserves from 1970-1976. I think this influence growing up encouraged him to serve his country. He graduated from MBA in 1999 and went to Ole Miss on an ROTC training scholarship and became a second lieutenant.

Describe his specific mission in Iraq.

He is a captain and a commander of an Apache attack helicopter unit. Their job is to provide support for ground combat operations.

Explain the purpose for the leave he will take in October.

He and his wife are expecting a baby and it's due October 5th. She is in Germany right now because that was where Matt was deployed several months ago. The army is going to let him take an 18-day leave to see his wife and newborn child. It is the number one thing he is looking forward to right now.

What are his plans after the Iraq mission?

His deployment in Iraq is for another twelve months. He'll leave for Germany and possibly the United States, but he may be deployed again. Being a helicopter pilot, he has a six-year commitment to the Army, and he has only served four. Right now he is trying to decide whether he wants to stay in the army after the six years or just get out. His decision will probably be influenced on what's going on worldwide, if there is another deployment coming. He may want to go back to the United States and go back to school, possibly become a lawyer or have a job flying helicopters. He may also want to stay in the army and make a career out of it, but now that he has a family, he wants a stable life. He doesn't know yet. It's hard to think about your future when you're in combat.

As a father of a soldier, what are your feelings about the war?

I personally would love for him to come back, because, naturally, I'm concerned about my son's safety. I get to talk to him every two weeks, and he told me recently that he believes what he's doing is right. He told me that if we left now, it would be the worst mistake we ever made. It's a contradiction in me. One part of me supports what he's doing, but the other part wants him home tomorrow. In terms of the political situation, I think it was a mistake to invade Iraq. It was not completely necessary. We should have focused on the Taliban and Al-Quaeda fighters in Afghanistan. Iraq was no threat to us, and they had no connections with Al-Quaeda. We unleashed a hornets' nest, and now we have to see it through.

Would his unit like for MBA students to send supplies? If so what is their email address?

I'm glad you asked that. Matthew said that anything from home is a blessing. Nothing excites soldiers more than a gift from home. His e-mail address is matthew.woolsey@us.army.mil.

If you want to send care packages or letters to Matt's unit in Iraq, use this address:

Matt at the helm of his Apache Longbow Attack Helicopter

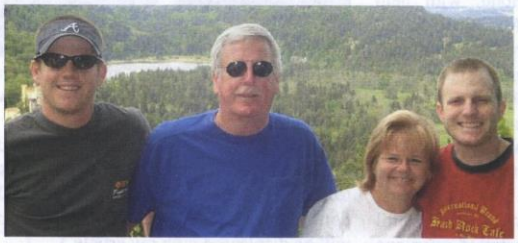
FEATURES

Captain Matthew Woolsey
HHC 2-159 ARB
APO, AE 09391

Include these items: candy (non-melting), granola bars, Pringles, other non-perishable food items, magazines, pens, pencils, AT&T phone cards, socks, soap, shampoo, deodorant, interesting letters, small games, books, batteries, Titans and UT items. DO NOT send foods that melt, liquids, glass items, alcohol, firearms, or items that require 110 voltage (only 220 voltage is available).

Matthew Woolsey is a symbol of honor and is an inspiration to our school. Soldiers like him risk their lives on a daily basis in Iraq while we are living happily in the safety of the United States. They are serving not only Iraqis, but also us. It's time for us to repay the favor. If you are interested in giving something to Matt Woolsey or his fellow soldiers, please e-mail me. A letter or some kind of package would be nice. Please keep Matt Woolsey in your thoughts and prayers.

Ground troops in Iraq



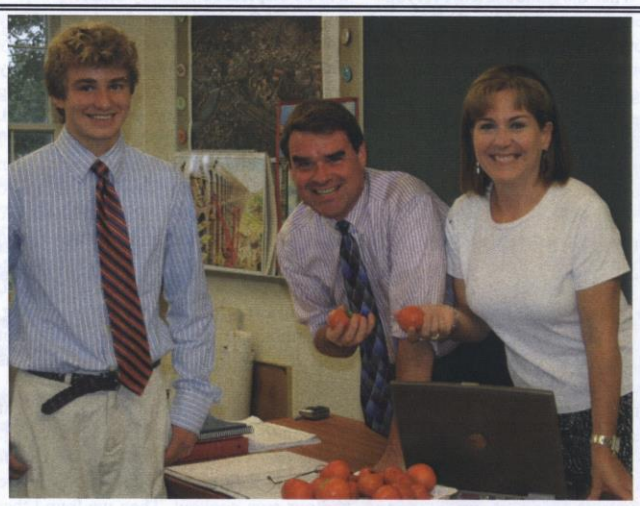
The Woolsey family visited the German Alps before Matt's deployment to Iraq.

Super Fantastic

by Adam "Tomato Man" Cornett

Three years ago, my mom and I decided that some home-grown tomatoes would improve our BLT's. The first year we grew several varieties, but we soon discovered at Bates Nursery that Super Fantastic tomatoes are, by far, our favorites.

Super Fantastic is the variety of my tomato, and the name speaks for itself. This tomato is not an accident; it is based on scientific fact--scientific because my mother's middle-school SCIENCE teacher from long ago, Dr. Emma Flowers, stands firm for the tomato that she grows. She shared her secret with us and her scientific formula for a Super Fantastic tomato. Here are Dr. Flowers' tomato facts for planting in the spring:



Tomato Man knows how to get good grades!

1. Buy Super Fantastic tomato plants early at Bates Nursery. (They sell out fast.)

2. Use1/3 mushroom compost and 2/3 Miracle Grow potting soil to plant the tomatoes.

3. Bury the tomato plant to first leaf, sucker weekly, water and fertilize as needed.

4. Tomatoes are ready in about 10- 11 weeks.

5. Great BLT's for the rest of the summer and tomatoes for everyone.

By the way, teachers really appreciate it when a student brings these tomatoes to school to give away! Just ask Mrs. Roberts and Dr. Seay.

FEATURES

Baseball Trip '07

by Joe Barry

Baseball Fanatics

This year's baseball trip was phenomenal. Mr. Thurmond, with help from Mr. Anderson and Mr. Woolsey, led us young baseball fans across the Southeast to get our fill of homers, grand slams, great defensive plays, and ejections.

We started out early on a Friday morning from MBA, traveling to see the Atlanta Braves on our first night. We drove approximately four – five hours on the first day and just chilled in our hotel room until game time. When the game started, everyone was pumped up for a good baseball game. We were not disappointed. The game ended 4-2 in favor of the St. Louis Cards, but the ninth inning had much excitement near the end. We then went to back to our hotel to rest up for our next day.

Before we left town, we had to do something in Atlanta, so the coaches took us to the ESPN Zone where we spent most of the morning before heading to Greenville, South Carolina. ESPN Zone had a game where you got to race horses!

Greenville was great because we got to see our first grand slam and first minor league ejection. It had a lot of action, but this game showed the big difference between Single-A and MLB.

Next, we traveled to North Carolina, where we stayed for three nights and had a blast. This stop was nice because we didn't have to worry about gathering our gear every morning. We went to four games while in this region of North Carolina (two at Greensboro, Durham, and Winston-Salem). The Durham Bulls' and Greensboro Grasshoppers' stadiums were probably the nicest (besides MLB) we saw on the trip; however, with good, there's bad, and let me tell you—Winston-Salem is almost as bad as Greer. Also, we got to tour the campus of Duke University, and that was fun. Probably the best, at least in my opinion, was seeing Cameron Indoor Stadium. We walked on the floor and saw the Hall of Fame for Duke Grads.

During that time, we all befriended a guy known as Rahul. I just feel that I have to throw this "new friend" in because if I don't, I have a feeling people from the trip will be displeased with my article.

After the three nights were up (they were great), we headed west to Hickory and Ashville. Hickory was great, especially the "UH-HUH" dude. After every freaking thing he said, *uh-huh* shortly followed. Even his shirt and hat said the phrase. I could tell he was a Hickory Crawdads fan because he pushed and shoved little kids to get the fly balls….AFTER HE ALREADY HAD THREE!!!!! But alas, he was fun to watch. I mean the guy did or said anything. He even said to a sixteen year old girl, "How old are you? Oh, you're too young. The announcer is looking for a wife, but I bet he'd wait…I would." The guy was crazy.

Okay, enough of that. Next night we went to Ashville to see a double header. It was pretty cool at first. We had part of the picnic area reserved for MBA, so we had our own cookout. Then we found that we could play basketball, and we paid one of the workers $5 so we could play 3-on-3 for the night if we wanted. It was fun, and Ponder, Mr. Thurmond's son, was crazy good with the rock. Then things got wild in the second game. It was "Thirsty Thursday" so it was $1 drinks (including beer). People were drunk by the end of the first game and kept drinkin'. Also, the guy we paid to play basketball said we couldn't play anymore, which was a disappointment. I was wearing my Duke shirt, and a drunk Tar Heel fan came up and talks to me, saying, "Ya-ya-you n-n-need to get y-your-yourself ch-checked out." I couldn't help but think, *You're the drunk guy talking to children. Think about what you just said.* The game ended fine without trouble (the beer ran out in the top of the 9th which means just about everyone left), and we rested up because the last day of the trip was upon us.

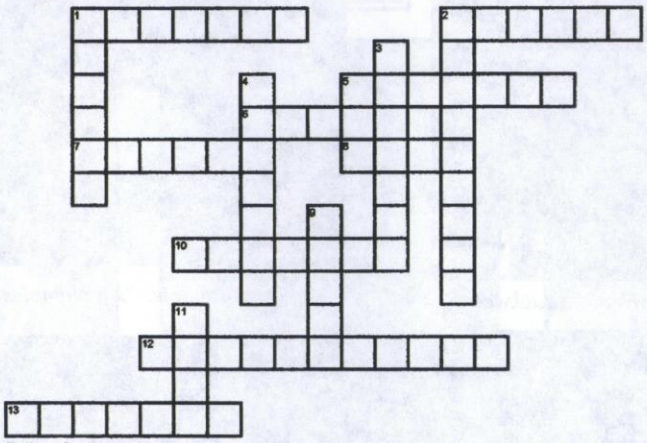
We awoke the next day to have a weird feeling. In a few hours, we would be back in Tennessee. The week had flown by!!! We had one game left, the East Tennessee Smokies. That was a great game; we got to see awesome plays and to cap it off (not just the game, the whole trip), there were fireworks at the end. WOW! I was pretty sad that it was over, but…THERE'S NEXT YEAR!!!!!

Mr. Woolsey said that he thought the baseball trip was "adventurous" because he felt that every town and minor league park we visited was exciting. Mr. Anderson said that the trip was "perfect...taking a trip to watch minor league baseball with a great group of young men is a great way to spend eight days in the summer." Mr. T said that the trip was a "Grand Slam," terrific! Everyone on the trip had a great time enjoying America's pastime in its purest form. The highlight of the trip was watching Bill Shofner emerge from the bottom of a pile of fans at the Smokies game and then thrust the retrieved foul ball up into the air in victory. A close second was watching the pick-up baseball game where Will Narramore gracefully flipped over the temporary fence in the outfield!

JOE'S CROSSWORD

Sports Stumper

Joe Scherrer



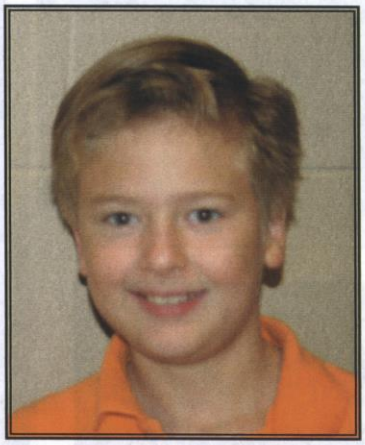
EclipseCrossword.com

Across

1. Winter Olympic sport played with stones and brooms
2. Sports in the Winter Olympics Biathlon: Shooting and _____.
5. First southern city to have a Major League Baseball team
6. Basketball league that used red, white, and blue basketballs
7. Former name of Tennessee Titans
8. College football star who later became US President
10. Loser of first World Series
12. Home of Baseball Hall of Fame
13. A period of play in a polo match

Down

1. Home of Football Hall of Fame
2. Home of first golf course in the world
3. First World Series played entirely west of the Mississippi began in what city?
4. Famous golf tournament in Georgia
9. Green Bay Packers "star"
11. Tennis word for "zero"

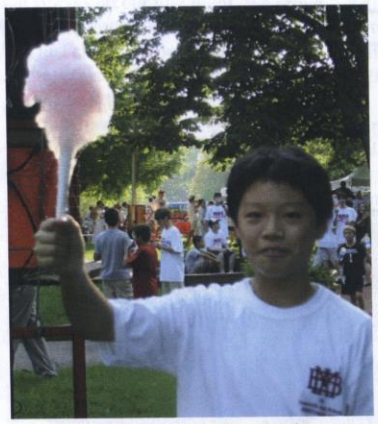


First person to see Joe with a correct puzzle wins THE PRIZE!

BIG RED CARNIVAL

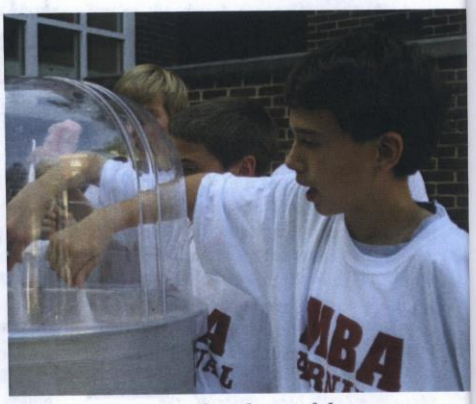
Scott "BalloonHead" Blackwell

Translate this: "Abîte, molestî!"

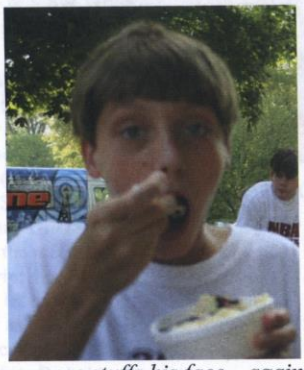


Tom Bu: Olympic torch bearer wannabe

Eric Walsh's best look!



"Keep your hand out of the cotton candy machine, Will!"



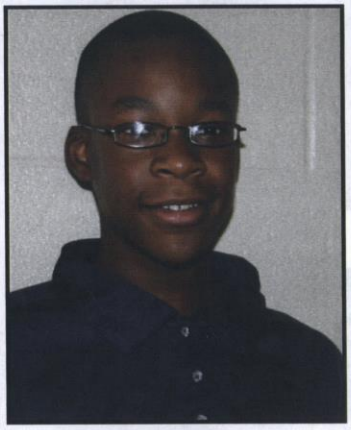
Narramore stuffs his face—again.

Rob Edwards, Will Stewart, and Michael Kosson: the two-faced trio

WELCOME!

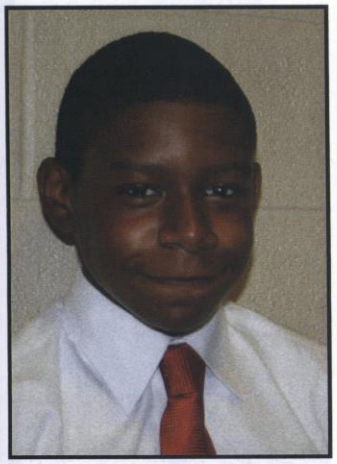
New Eighth Graders

Caleb Counce



Emeka Ikpeazu

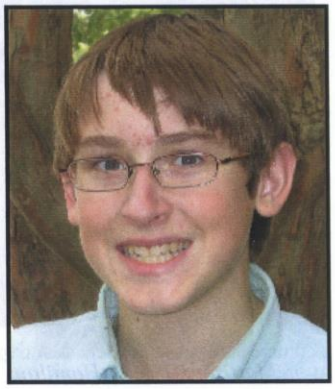
Blake Bars



Taylor Shelley

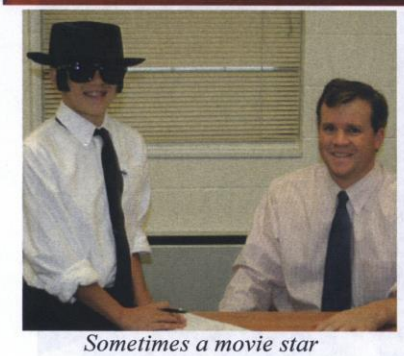
Jay Guth

Jason Katseff



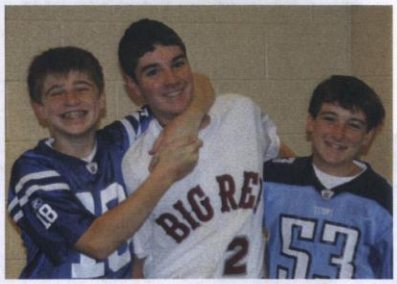
Maclin Davis

SPIRIT WEEK



Sometimes a movie star needs help! (Hayden Deakins)

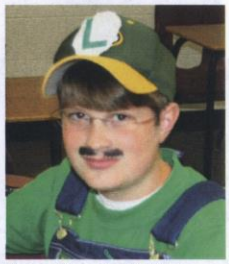
Nick "Stewie" Fletcher



Joe Richardson, Vince Panvini, and Sam Edwards show their spirit

Joseph "Captain America" Robinson

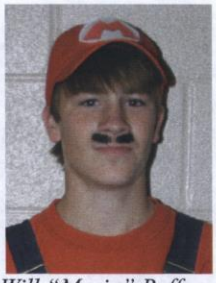
Nathan Fouts and Hunter Guye



John "Luigi" Elam

Bo Griswald, Christian Sargeant, and Dallas Gibson

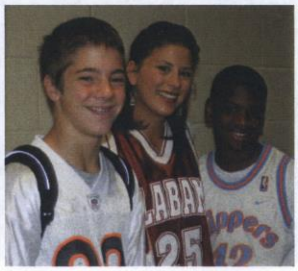
Dallas "Mohawk" Gibson



Will "Mario" Peffen

Mattison "Goth" Hamilton

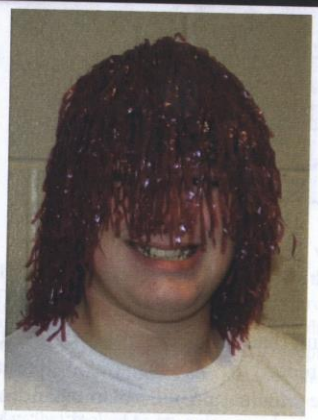
Will "Sumo" Stephenson



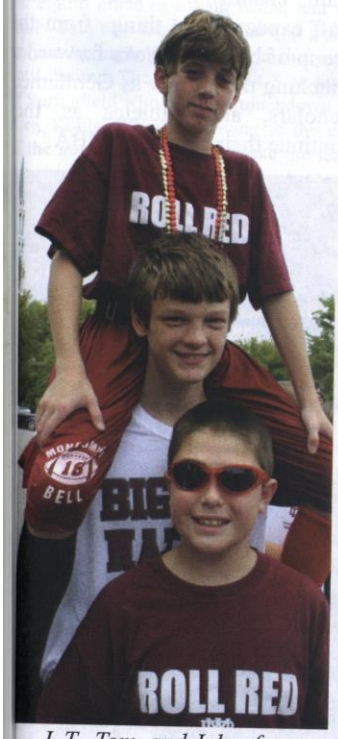
Jack Beckner, Mrs. Bakken, and JeTarri Donald

HOMECOMING

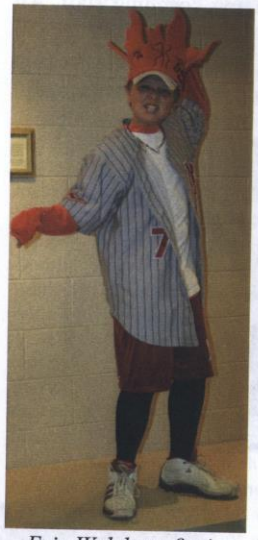
"BEAT ENSWORTH!"



"How long did it take to grow that, Dobbs?"



J. T., Tom, and John form a human totempole.



Eric Walsh on fire!

Big Red Dog congratulates Palmer Campbell for his prize: a lab puppy.

Andrew "Afro" Graham

Seventh graders have the Big Red spirit.

FOOTBALL

Talent and Team Chemistry

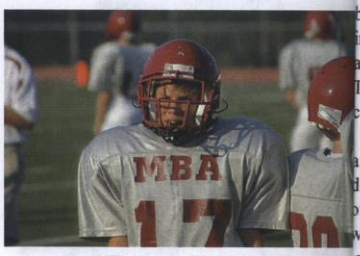
by John Wheeler

The seventh grade football team had a successful year. With a record of 7 wins and 3 losses, the team provided outstanding performances, both offensively and defensively. The most exciting games were against rivals Ensworth and Brentwood Academy. In the Ensworth game, the Tiger offense was shut down, resulting in a 12-0 win for the Big Red. Two days later, the team continued its winning streak by beating BA. The team's final game was a 30-12 victory over David Lipscomb in the Big Red Bowl.This MBA team was not about only one player; everyone contributed. Franklin Garstin and Robby Mills were versatile players, who hit hard. Robby was also a punishing fullback, who split his carries with the mobile Whit Emerson. The team also had strong performances from the running backs. Anchored by Brooks Best and Kamani Hodges, the backs were harder to catch than smoke. Quarterbacks Dylan Hall and Cade Hooper contributed to a very strong offensive line, supported by Todd Baker, Dustin Kruthapt, and Sam Edwards. However, the team's key to success was not exclusively their talent. It was the coaching. Coaches Jenkins, Anderson, and Simpson are an amazing coaching staff. All the players think these coaches did a great job. They were a key reason that the team had such a successful season.

Frank Vest

When asked to comment on the season, Coach Jenkins said, "The seventh grade football team is very talented and has great team chemistry. The coaching staff expects great things from this group of boys and looks forward to watching them grow as Gentlemen, Scholars, and Athletes as they continue their careers at MBA."

Trey Gill



Furman Haynes

Andrew Einstman

Brooks Best

FOOTBALL

An Exciting Season!

by Joe Barry

This year of eighth-grade football was great! After starting [unofficial] practices in May, our team felt pumped for a successful season. As always, we started the season with the Jamboree. We tied Woodland (6-6) and shut out St. Edwards (14-0) with touchdowns from Augie Houghton, Eric Owings, and Chris Meluch.

The season began with what was possibly the toughest two-game opener for the eighth grade in a long while, and we really didn't do too bad. In the first game, against Springfield, we were in the game until the end. The score was 14-8, in favor of Springfield with our lone touchdown by Alex Kohls. We were driving at the end of the game and looking to take the lead, but it wasn't meant to be. We threw an interception, which Springfield used to their advantage and returned for a touchdown. The game ended at 22-8 and was much closer than the score indicated.

A week later, we faced Whithorne, a school from Columbia, and we were determined. Unfortunately, we had many of our starters on the sidelines. Each team would take the ball and then punt it back- a good defensive game. However, it only takes one play to take the lead, and we gave up that play in the final minute of the half.

The offense runs the wedge against BGA.

Nate Greene, James Kay, and other defensive players stop BGA.

Whithorne definitely had the momentum going into half and came out with a bang at the start of the second half. Our lone touchdown came by Joe Barry on the goal line after hard running down the field by Augie Houghton. It was a long ride home.

We would rebound though. Our next opponent was BGA, a true rival, and we had to win. The game started out very close: three and out, three and out, an occasional first down. Our D was led by James Kay and Conry Miler at linebacker and Alex Kohls and John Morphis at end. It was a 0-0 deadlock at the half. The lone touchdown came in the fourth quarter for the Big Red on a 25-yard run by Bryan Oslin for his first touchdown of the season. Despite BGA's desperate attempts to come back, we won this won 6-0 and improved to 1-2.

Everyone was pumped up about our next game: ENSWORTH!!!!! We set the tone early but didn't score until the second quarter from a 65-yard run and touchdown by Ryland Close, his first of the season. This play gave us the lead at the half. We came out as a passing threat when QB John Morphis connected with TE Alex Kohls twice, one going for a touchdown. This exciting play didn't end our scoring. Bryan Oslin put an exclamation point on the victory with a third touchdown. Final score was 20-0.

Our next game was with our nemesis, the BA Eagles. We were sloppy and intimidated. In other words, IT WAS HELL! Luckily for us, we only gave up two touchdowns and went into the half down 14. In my opinion, it probably shouldn't have been that close; we were lucky. The second half began, and it looked like it would be

Mattison Hamilton returns a kick-off.

the same. The Eagles quickly scored a third TD and went up 20-0, but we hadn't thrown in the towel. We scored quickly. The drive was started by a short gain from a reception by Chris Meluch, and we punched in the score from a run by Bryan Oslin on a play that looked to be going nowhere. We quickly gained momentum from that score, but just as quickly gave it up as we watched in horror as BA returned the kickoff for a score. Luckily, that would be the last time they reached the end zone. We almost came back with a run by Ryland Close and a TD reception from Oslin. The score was 28-21 as the game clock ran down. The coaches weren't totally irate because we played hard and to the end.

The season ended on a positive note as MBA defeated David Lipscomb by a score of 41-14 in the Big Red Bowl.

Coaches McMurray, McMahan, Bryant, Sitton, and Ardisson are very proud of the hard work the eighth graders have put in. This group has grown and progressed greatly together, and the future of MBA football looks bright. It is not a class with just a few stars, but truly a team of contributors and friends.

Teammates celebrate Bryan Oslin's 42-yard TD run.

CROSS COUNTRY

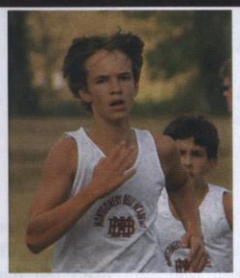
HVAC Champs--Three-peat!

by Coaches Russell, Bailey, Ferrell, and Dyer

The Mighty Microbes completed the season as champions of the HVAC. Led by the speedy seventh-grade trio of Tate Ramsden (2), Alex Smith (4), and George Swenson (5) and a second trio of eighth graders, David Arteaga (6), Daniel Mace (9), and Noah Fardon (10), MBA took six of the top ten places overall. Striving to finish the final race of the year with new personal records, the entire team watched *Rocky I* the day before the race and performed like prize fighters in a fifteen-round bout across the mile-and-a-half course.

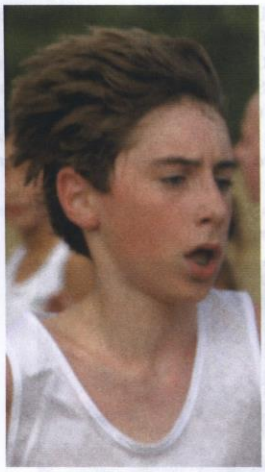
Each member of the team, when asked to give his best, put everything he had into a championship effort for the entire season. When asked about the success of this year's team, the coaches responded, "The selfless leadership of the eighth graders is the reason. Whether getting the water every day for practice, leading stretches, taking roll, or cheering the last man to the finish during workouts, the eighth grade set the tone from the beginning. They are great role models for the seventh grade to follow."

All present at the meet were relieved to learn that Emeka Ikpeazu, one of the eighth-grade leaders of the microbe team, recovered nicely after collapsing near the end of the race. His recovery adds a strong punch to the celebration of the microbes for a wonderful season.



Daniel Mace

Noah Fardon



Tate Ramsden

Alex Smith

GOLF

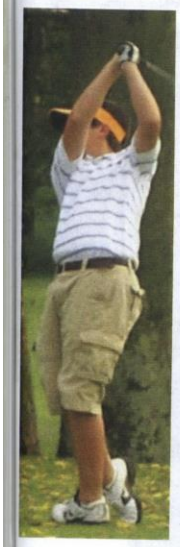
An Astounding Finish

by Hayden Holliman and Coach Carro

The HVAC tourney squad

Mark Lowe

The microbe golf team finished the season with a somewhat disappointing 4-6 record. With the regular season behind us, we headed off to the HVAC tournament on the Links at Spencer Creek, competing against some very skilled teams. Although MBA placed fifth overall, it was a heart-stopping finale between our own Austin Doebler and CPA's Peyton Deming after both shot an impressive 32–one under par. The lads headed for a sudden death playoff starting on the par 4 #1hole. After both players hit good tee shots, Austin attacked the back-location pin and went slightly over the green. Peyton was safely on in regulation. Austin chipped--again aggressively--to six feet past the pin with a slight downhill left-to-right breaking comeback putt. Deming two-putted for a par. Austin made his putt to stay alive, and they headed to the par 3 #2 hole. Both players were safely on the green, but Austin left himself a long first putt. Peyton had a makeable birdie putt. Continuing his aggressive strategy, Austin stroked an excellent putt that brushed the cup but went five feet past. Deming stroked his putt but went past by about three or four feet, leaving himself a slight downhiller. Austin missed his par putt and left the door open for Deming to take the win. Alas, he also missed the par putt, and with that they headed to the par 3 #3 hole. In a seeming reversal of strategies, Deming attacked the back right hole location, going just over the green on he back fringe, but leaving himself another makeable putt. Austin also hit enough club, but his shot landed some 35 feet to the left of the pin.



Andrew Scott

Baker Swain

At that point the only sounds we could hear were the heartbeats of the two young men (and perhaps our own also). Duplicating Cody Fisher's performance last year, Austin remarkably made the putt. (We never had a doubt.) Congratulations to Austin Doebler for winning individual honors and also the other golfers who shot good scores as well: Austin Doebler (32), Mark Lowe (40), Roe Moore and Marshall Sorenson (both 42), and Baker Swain (43).

Congratulations also to the whole golf team, composed of Austin Doebler, Roe Moore, Marshall Sorenson, Baker Swain, George Preston, Mark Lowe, Alex Matheny, Andrew Scott, and Hayden Holliman for their dedication to the team. We would all like to thank Coach Carro, who helped make this season successful and one to remember.

1st place medalist Austin Doebler and Coach Carro

MIXERS

A Wet Mixer

by Robert Papel

The seventh grade mixer took place at Harpeth Hall on its new turf field. Lots of MBA and HH students turned out for the first mixer of the year. We got to know each other better as we played volleyball and frisbee. The parents cooked hotdogs for everyone, and there were plenty of drinks and desserts to go around. One unusual observation is that it was wet--very wet. Rubber stuck to everything: shoes, clothes, and skin. Overall, the mixer was great fun! Everybody is looking forward to the next one!

MBA – HH Cookout

By Rob Edwards

Date: September 8, 2007
Place: MBA 42nd Avenue field

Eighth grade boys and girls pulled up to a rainy 42nd Avenue at about 4:00 on Saturday, September 8, 2007. The first mixer of the year started out a bit slowly, but once some games of ultimate Frisbee and football started, the fun really picked up. It was quite obvious that the boys and girls knew each other a lot better than last year. One of the highlights was the amazing food provided by the MBA moms, consisting of subs, cookies, and brownies. I sent a web survey to the eighth grade class, and here are the results.

1. What did you think about the mixer on 9/8/07 at 42nd Ave?

It was great.	11.11%	7
It was fun but could have been better.	63.49%	40
I would have rather stayed home.	25.40%	16
TOTAL	100.00%	63

2. Which type of mixer do you like better?

Outdoor cookouts with sports and games	7.70%	5
Pool party	26.15%	17
Dances	60.00%	39
Bowling	6.15%	4
TOTAL	100.00%	65

3. Are you meeting new people (girls!) or just hanging out with your friends?

Lots of girls	34.38%	22
Some girls	56.25%	36
No girls	9.37%	6
TOTAL	100.00%	64

My observation from this survey is that the eighth grade needs to have a dance. Maybe a good DJ could get the 9.37% of the class that has met NO GIRLS to mix it up more. A note to moms: Keep the subs, cookies, and brownies coming!

ON THE HILL

Newlyweds Katherine and Peter Dyer
Saturday, September 22, 2007

Nita and Mike Snow are the proud owners of a Honda 1800 Goldwing Trike. They have been all over Middle Tennessee as they take trips almost every weekend. The Snows will be taking their first long trip during Fall Break to the Smokies and North Carolina. Colorado is their destination next summer.

NOTABLE NAMES

Homeroom Representatives 2007-2008

EIGHTH GRADE

Mr. Anderson: John Morphis, Eric Owings
Mr. Brown: Gray Curtis, Barton Davies, Charlie Steere
Mrs. Christeson: Daniel Bellet, Rob Edwards, Will Stephenson
Ms. Ellery: David Arteaga, John Mark Bellet, Daniel Mace
Mr. McMurray: Edward Wilson, Marshall Sorenson
Mrs. Pettus: James Kay, Bryan Oslin
Mr. Russ: Jack Beckner, Adam Hobbs
Mr. Spiegl: Jack Whitson, Wills Brooks
Mr. Woolsey: Paul Brazil, Jamie Bradshaw

SEVENTH GRADE

Mr. Barclay: George Swenson, Hayden Deakins
Mr. Cooper: Jack Wagster, Thomas Gilchrist
Mr. Gillespie: Brooks Best, Chandler Burgess
Mr. McGugin: Dustin Kruthaupt, Michael Piana
Mrs. Roberts: Will McFadden, Todd Baker
Mr. Russell: Furman Haynes
Mr. Sawyer: John Mellow, Parrish Preston
Mr. Wims: John Tully, Jackson Flora

Decision 2007:
Dean vs. Clement

by Hamilton Millwee

On September 11, 2007, a record-breaking number of voters cast their ballots for the next mayor of Nashville. The run-off was between Karl Dean, former Metro Law Director and Public Defender, and Bob Clement, former U.S. Representative. Both had similar priorities but different ways to achieve these goals. Clement's top priority was public safety. He said that he would make sure that the police had the tools they needed to respond to emergencies and natural disasters. He stated that the police would be concentrated in high-crime areas.

Dean's main priority was education. By improving drop-out and truancy rates Dean hopes to reduce violent crime. He published a detailed, eight-page paper outlining his plan. He said that he could reduce truancy and drop-outs by creating a flexible school schedule, by hiring community workers to bridge the gap between school and the world, and by increasing parental involvement. When the results were finally in, Karl Dean came out on top. People who voted for Dean said that the turning point for them was the candidate's stance on education. An interesting sidenote to the MBA community is that Mayor Dean's son, Rascoe, is a recent graduate.

ENTERTAINMENT

Jason Bourne Is Back -- Better Than Ever

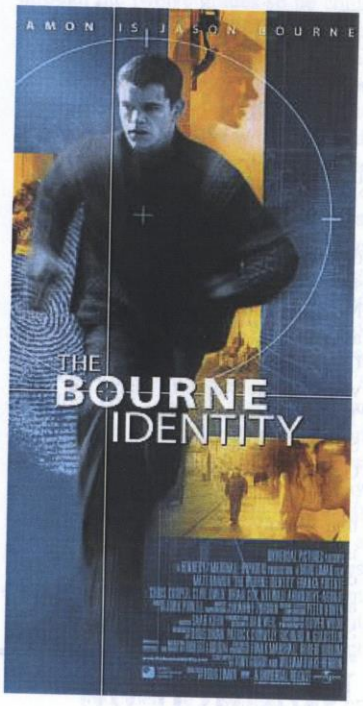
by Noah Fardon

In the hit summer release *The Bourne Ultimatum,* Jason Bourne (terrifically played by Matt Damon) continues his quest to find out who he really is and why he is being hunted. The movie starts off with Bourne finding articles written by a man named Simon Ross (Paddy Considine). These articles contain information that deals with two companies called Project Treadstone and Operation Black Briar. The information that Simon Ross published, with more depth, may help Bourne remember his past, so Bourne begins pursuit of Ross's source. Soon, Jason realizes that he is not the only one trying to find someone. Operation Black Briar, led by Noah Vosen (David Strathairn), is trying to hunt him down to keep him from figuring out their secrets. Now Bourne must find a way to retrieve his history from the workers of Operation Black Briar, whilst dodging the many attacks that are thrown at him.

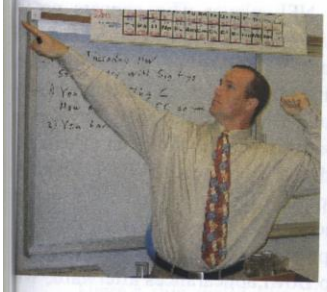
The action scenes are breath-taking and intelligently done, and the rest of the movie is very well directed by Paul Greengrass.

If you weren't satisfied with this summer's movies, then *The Bourne Ultimatum* is not only better than most of them, but it may be one of the best action movies in the past decade.

Rating: PG-13 for violence and intense sequences of action.
Run time: 111 minutes
Concerns: If you don't think you should see, or would not enjoy, the violent scenes that occur frequently throughout this movie, it is not the movie for you.



WELCOME NEW FACULTY MEMBERS



Mr. Ritch Gillespie
IPS and Biology

Mrs. Katherine Dyer
English 7 and 8

Mr. K. J. Shumacker
Art 7, I, and II

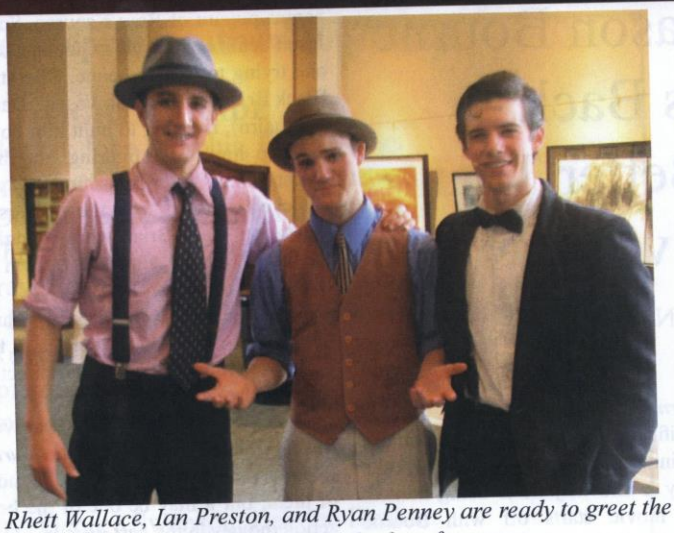
Mr. Sean Brock
Athletics
U.S. History - 7th

ENTERTAINMENT

Return to the Twenties

by Parrish Preston

MBA and Harpeth Hall joined drama forces on September 6-9 for the successful production of "Thoroughly Modern Millie." Stephanie Rothenberg, as Millie, is a newcomer to New York City trying to make it as a modern woman. She wants to marry her boss, Trevor Graydon (Ryan Penney) of Sincere Trust Insurance. When Mr. Graydon falls for Miss Dorothy Brown (Mary Julia Bressman), Millie realizes that Jimmy Smith (Corbin Williams) is her true love. In the end, Millie can marry her boss because Jimmy actually owns all of the branches of Sincere Trust! In addition to the love story, the audience enjoyed the sub-plot involving the hilarious antics of Mrs. Meers (Grace Douglas), Ching Ho (Bennett Davidson), and Bun Foo (Garrett Anglin). The choreography was excellent with lots of intricate tap dances. If you did not see this play, you missed a great one!



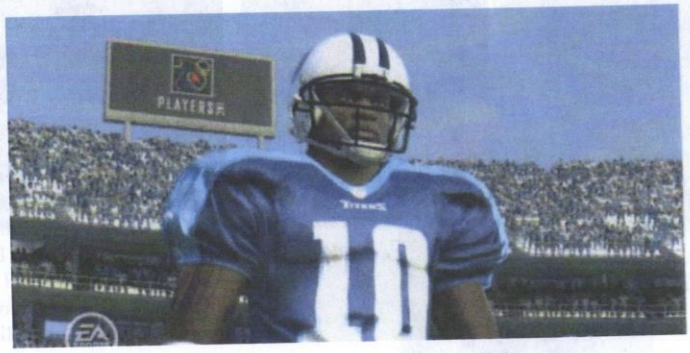
Rhett Wallace, Ian Preston, and Ryan Penney are ready to greet the crowd following the final performance.

Madden 08

by Hayden Holliman

Madden 08 was released on April 27, 2007, along with our very own Vince Young's premier on the cover. Many of you may be wondering: Will this year's game be any different from last year's? YES! EA Sports and the Madden franchise have been fully engaged in making this game bigger than life, complete with mid-air collisions, hurdles, gang tackles, diving catches, and much more. Each team has a few key players with special strengths; for example, Keith Bullock is accompanied by his brick wall trait which you can use to create mismatche and exploit other teams' weaknesses.

With this question answered another one is critical: What abou the "Madden curse," the belief tha the NFL player who appears on th cover of the game will be jinxed wit either an injury or a poor season Some alleged victims include Marsha Faulk, Daunte Culpepper, Ray Lewi Donovan McNabb, Shaun Alexande and the dog-gone Michael Vick. A important fact is that ten cover player since 1999 had a total of 39 Pro Bow appearances, compared with only fou Pro Bowl appearances afterward. Wit all this controversy, what will happe to our Tennessee Titans' Vince Young Let's keep our fingers crossed and hop for the best.



ENTERTAINMENT

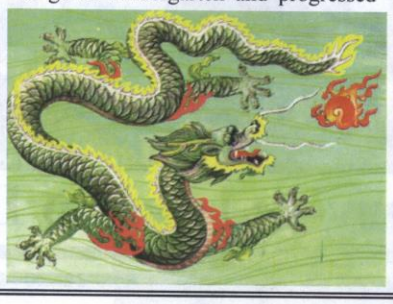
Chris Lee:

The Man, The Myth, The Dragon

by Will Stewart

In 5000 B.C., a dragon was born out of the center of a volcano on Home Skillet Island, a small island off the coast of Antarctica. The dragon lived alone for many years, until he wandered too far from his volcano home and stumbled upon a village. The inhabitants of the city were scared of the dragon, but they immediately rallied and attacked it. The dragon fought back and had killed almost every one of the villagers when a mighty sorcerer appeared and put a curse upon him. The dragon was sealed in the volcano for 7000 years. When he was released, he realized he had been transformed into a human boy with dragon powers. He had been transformed into a boy named Chris Lee.

As soon as Chris woke up, he realized he had to live the life of a normal boy so the people of the world wouldn't put another curse on him. Not knowing much about human culture, he applied to every college in America and was immediately accepted. He went to Harvard and got his doctorate in every subject there was in only two days. However, so as not to arouse suspicion, he stayed for another four years. Once Chris graduated, he got caught up in a war between every nation in the U.N. and himself. He won the war in 30 minutes, but nobody ever knew about it because the governments involved erased it from all the historical records so they would not be embarrassed. When Chris Lee turned five, he decided to go to kindergarten and progressed through the twelve grades so he could have the experiences all kids have. When Chris reached seventh grade, he started a revolutionary business, The Caterpillar Train, which changed the way people all over the world traveled. The business almost went bankrupt in winter, only to come back stronger and more profitable with two new branches, The Butterfly Plane and The Octopus Ship. ChrisCorp© remains the most profitable business in the world, and Chris Lee remains the world's only quadrillionaire. To add to his riches, Chris Lee released a CD, "Chris Lee's Greatest Hits," which went platinum and remains the most listened to CD in the world. Chris also bought himself the continent of Antarctica for a birthday present. He currently has several businesses located there, including a Toyota Dealership. Chris Lee lives in his private underwater mansion somewhere off the coast of Africa, but the only person who knows its exact location is Chris himself.



Whether he's selling cars or fighting wars, one thing is for sure: never get Chris Lee angry, or you'll regret it.

Docta Love

by Cayce "Docta Love" Ortale

Question of the Month

Dear Docta Love:

There's this girl I like, but I don't have the courage to ask her out, and I don't know if she likes me. What should I do?

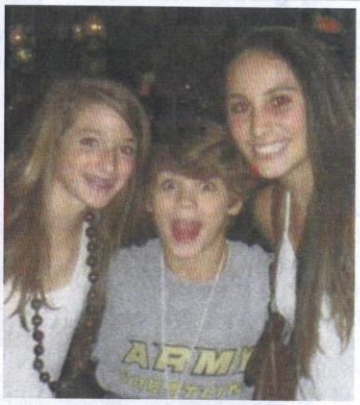
Your envious servant,
Nervous Lover

Answer

Dear Nervous Lover:

If you really like this girl, you need to build up your confidence and just ask her out! If she says yes, that's great. If she says no, tough luck. My only advice is to just stay fresh with the ladies and not be so nervous. You'll find a lady who likes you for yourself. I should know.

The One and Only,
Docta Love



Docta Love surrounded by lovely ladies

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We Survived Camp Laney!

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